

Re: HB 6441, An Act Concerning Climate Change Adaptation

Senator Cohen, Representative Borer, and members of the Environment Committee:

HB 6441, includes several proposals which provide municipalities with funding tools to better respond to the impacts of climate change.

Section 3 of the bill is particularly important to our town of Southbury since it gives communities the opportunity to establish a limited buyer's conveyance fee program to generate revenue for land preservation and stewardship, climate adaptation, resilience, and other local environmental projects including urban forestry, invasive species control, and tree planting.

In Southbury we could use these funds to support local projects including conservation of open space, development of woodland trails, invasive species control and new parks.

Adoption of the program by towns is optional, and it costs the state nothing.

Please support HB 6441 and give our community the opportunity to decide whether to establish this funding program.

Tom Crider, Vice-President Southbury Land Trust, Inc.